

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 70 and 71 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein.

Please also AMEND claims 69 and 72-76, and ADD claim 77, as follows.

1-68. **(Canceled)**

69. **(Amended)** A method for making a tubular film comprising the steps of:

winding a thermoplastic sheet film on a columnar member with at least two turns so that leading and trailing ends of the wound film are positioned approximately on a line normal to an outer surface of the columnar member without overlapping each other;

fitting a tubular molding member over the columnar member with the wound film,
film; and

wherein a difference between an outer diameter of the columnar member and an inner diameter of the tubular molding member results in a gap between the columnar member and the tubular molding member when the tubular molding member is fitted over the columnar member, and

wherein a thermal coefficient of expansion of the columnar member is larger than a thermal coefficient of expansion of the tubular molding member; and

heating the columnar member with the wound film and the tubular molding member to a temperature at which the wound film is softened and the gap is narrowed to connect ~~connecting~~ the leading and trailing ends of the wound film, thereby forming the

wound film into the tubular member having a uniform thickness ~~by heating the wound film, the columnar member, and the tubular molding member up to a temperature at which the wound film is softened, thereby forming the wound film into the tubular film.~~

70. (CANCELED)

71. (CANCELED)

72. (Draft Amended) The ~~film~~ method according to claim 69, wherein the leading and trailing ends ~~form butted portions on butt~~ opposite sides of a plane extending through the axis of the columnar member ~~at least one turn of the wound film.~~

73. (Draft Amended) The method according to claim 69 ~~[[72]]~~, wherein the leading and trailing ends are obliquely cut to be ~~form~~ spirally-formed about the columnar member ~~butted portions.~~

74. (Draft Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein an angle formed between the ~~butted~~ leading and trailing ends and the film surface is 90° ~~with respect to a film surface.~~

75. (Draft Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein an angle formed between the ~~butted~~ leading and trailing ends and the film surface is other than 90° ~~with respect to a film surface.~~

76. **(Draft Amended)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the [[said]] sheet film is made from at least one material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyethersulfone, and a fluorine resin.

77. **(New)** The method according to claim 69, wherein the columnar member with wound film and the tubular molding member are heated upon being placed in a heating device.